DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 461 962 EC 308 813

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TITLE Characteristics of and Strategies for Teaching Students with Mild Disabilities. Fourth Edition.
ISBN ISBN-0-205-34069-5
PUB DATE 2002-00-00
NOTE 484p.; For a previous edition, see ED 370 309.
AVAILABLE FROM Allyn & Bacon, 75 Arlington Street, Suite 300, Boston, MA 02116 ($70). Tel: 800-666-9433 (Toll Free); Web site: http://www.ablongman.com.
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Guides - Non-Classroom (055) -- Information Analyses (070)
EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Behavior Disorders; *Classroom Techniques; *Disabilities; Educational Principles; Elementary Secondary Education; Graduate Students; Higher Education; Inclusive Schools; *Instructional Effectiveness; Interpersonal Competence; Learning Disabilities; Mild Mental Retardation; Preservice Teacher Education; Special Education; *Student Characteristics; *Teaching Methods

ABSTRACT

This text is intended to introduce undergraduate or graduate general or special education majors to student characteristics and teaching strategies with students who have mild disabilities (mild mental retardation, behavior disorders, and learning disabilities). Part 1 addresses the characteristics of students with mild disabilities. Chapter 1 explains the basic principles of special education, including its history, legal mandates, and descriptions of various types of disabling conditions. Chapters 2 through 4 present detailed information on each of the three mild disabilities, including practical teaching strategies for each. Chapter 5 considers cross-categorical characteristics and educational strategies. Part 2 of the book details effective teaching practices with this population. Chapter 6 explains how to organize and implement inclusion programs. Chapter 7 looks at teaching from the point of view of the learner. Chapters 8 and 9 detail instructional modification and classroom management practices. Chapter 10 extends this discussion to an analysis of social skills instruction. The final chapter describes the value of family-school cooperation and describes programs that include families. Appendices include a special education chronology, a guide to commonly used psychoactive medications, a guide to congenital disorders, a guide to tests, and a sample Individualized Education Plan. (Contains approximately 850 references.) (DB)

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